



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

MAY 17 2017

David Bernhatt, Assistant Regional Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Regional Office  
Protected Resources Division  
263 13th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5505

Dear Mr. Bernhatt:

On March 2, 2017, the EPA sent a letter to you initiating Section 7(a)(2) consultation on EPA's approval of Louisiana's adopted amendments to Title 33, Part IX, Chapter 11 of the Louisiana Surface Water Quality Standards, pursuant to Clean Water Action Section 303(c) and 40 CFR Part 131. In that letter we stated that "[t]he DO Criterion of 4.0 mg/L applicable to estuarine waters has not changed." We wish to correct for the record, that there are in fact, six estuarine segments included in the approval to which the new criteria would apply. This clarification does not amend the list of species on which EPA, with the assistance of the National Marine Fisheries Service, is presently consulting.

EPA will continue with its work to assess the potential effects of the new criteria on species within these and all other segments included within the action area. If you have any questions concerning this letter or action, please contact Russell Nelson, of my staff at (214) 665-6646 or by email at [nelson.russell@epa.gov](mailto:nelson.russell@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

*for Philip A. Crocker*  
Jane P. Watson, Ph.D.  
Associate Director  
Ecosystems Protection Branch (6WQ-E)

cc:

Sarah Furtak  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries  
Southeast Regional Office - Protected Resources Division - Coral Conservation Branch  
8000 North Ocean Drive, Suite 227  
Dania Beach, FL 33004